TRENDS

A3275-2 1/6/82

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 18 totaled an estimated 14.9 billion ton-miles, 8.1 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 51 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 785.9 billion ton-miles, 12.7 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 18 totaled 335,960 cars, 12.2 percent below 1981, and 2.3 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 19.8 percent in the East, 12.3 percent in the South, and 6.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Fourteen of the 21 groups declined from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 11 totaled an estimated 40,781 cars, up 11.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 71,877 trailers and/or containers, 9.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 50 weeks of the year was 1,850,267 cars, 9.5 percent higher than last year, and 3,256,752 trailers and/or containers, up 7.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/18/82:

	Loadings in Week ended December 18, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,421	I	73	0.3	I	2,412	11.5
Other farm products	5,057	I	568	12.7	D	796	13.6
Metallic ores	11,802	D	10,881	48.0	D	2,078	15.0
Coal	102,905	D	19,221	15.7	D	1,035	1.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,139	D	772	9.8	D	744	9.4
Nonmetallic minerals	10,008	D	1,345	11.8	D	346	3.3
Grain mill products	12,154	D	367	2.9	D	10	0.1
Food and kindred products	11,833	D	1,922	14.0	D	1,114	8.6
Primary forest products	11,679	D	3,056	20.7	D	2,529	18.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,191	I	75	1.2	I	130	2.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,894	D	2,828	16.0	D	147	1.0
Chemicals and allied products	18,846	D	2,842	13.1	D	1,160	5.8
Petroleum products	4,695	D	467	9.0	I	175	3.9
Stone, clay and glass products	7,843	D	1,626	17.2	D	853	9.8
Coke	3,733	D	1,551	29.4	I	38	1.0
Metals and products	6,443	D	5,063	44.0	I	147	2.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	13,355	I	163	1.2	D	1,241	8.5
Waste and scrap materials	6,501	D	2,035	23.8	D	407	5.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,464	D	1,354	15.4	I	56	0.8
All other carloads	49,820	I	7,603	18.0	I	1,477	3.1
LCL traffic	177	I	12	7.3	D	13	6.8
Total Cars Loaded	335,960	D	46,836	12.2	D	8,036	2.3
Corresponding week of 1981	382,796						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (51 weeks)	18,287,013	21,359,402	D 14.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
50 Weeks cumulative	771.0	884.2	D 12.8
Week ended December 18	14.9	16.2	D 8.1
51 Weeks cumulative	785.9	900.5	D 12.7

AARt-122382